



Early October 2022

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Hearthstone Rituals

*Hearthstone doesn't expect everyone to enter in
Perfect Love and Perfect Trust,
as you may not know many of the other attendees,
but to enter with a Willing Heart and an Open Mind,
and leave your differences at the door.*

Some traditions are more controversial than others, or may contain a component that confuses or disturbs someone attending an Open Full Moon ritual. It is one of the risks of exploring different traditions. Should anyone be uncomfortable with a ritual presented by Hearthstone, please discuss it with the Ritual Leaders or one of the Board members (Vella Rose, Amy, Catherine, and Arynne) so that we may hopefully resolve and heal your concern.

Hearthstone is a safe and sober environment. Please respect your fellow participants by not attending ritual under the influence of drugs or alcohol.



OPEN FULL MOON RITUALS

*Join us in person at the Althea Center, 1400 Williams St, Denver
Doors open at 7 pm, Announcements begin at 7:30 pm followed by ritual.
No late entry after 7:30.*

Hearthstone's October 7, 2022 Ritual is in person! Join us!

GUIDELINES In the interest of maintaining good health for all, Hearthstone Board members will continue to wear masks at our public ritual and we encourage everyone to do the same. If you are sick or not feeling well, please stay home. If you are unvaccinated and want to attend, we ask that you wear a mask. Masks and hand sanitizer will be available. Thank you.



UPCOMING OPEN FULL MOON RITUAL

Friday, October 7, 2022

Greetings! Join us on Friday, Oct 7, for our next Hearthstone Open Full Moon Ritual, led by Chris. October 7th is kinda mid-point between Mabon (September 22) and Samhain (October 31). This seems like (to me, Chris) an excellent time to ritualize the concept of passing through the doorways of the harvest festivals. What are we leaving and what are we entering? The actual date of the full moon is October 9th - and the moon will be in the astrological sign of Aries. So... it is my intent to gently use some of the brashness and boldness of Aries the Ram to give us support in navigating the transition from what have we harvested to what we are contemplating to be our next step.

Thanks and a Tip of the Hat for our September Ritual



Hearthstone thanks Mary and Ziva with Gaia Ritual Circle for September's Harvest Open Full Moon, celebrating the Wheel of the Year turning towards Mabon, the second harvest in Wiccan tradition and the autumnal equinox. Mary led the ritual, which was co-written by Ziva (who was unable to be with us because of an emergency). Vella Rose, Catherine, and Moon assisted with cleansing the circle and calling the quarters. Vella Rose led us in a chant to cast the circle, and later – after the meditation – to ground.

We recognized that this growing season is coming to an end and that there is no harvest without loss. We contemplated the end of this cycle and the beginning of the next in meditation. In that meditation, we did not seek to find answers. Rather, we practiced pausing in sacred space to recognize, name, and acknowledge the losses each of us may have experienced during our own, personal, growing seasons.

Thank you, Mary and Ziva, for this wonderfully enriching ritual honoring our personal harvests!

-----Catherine

Articles from our community members!

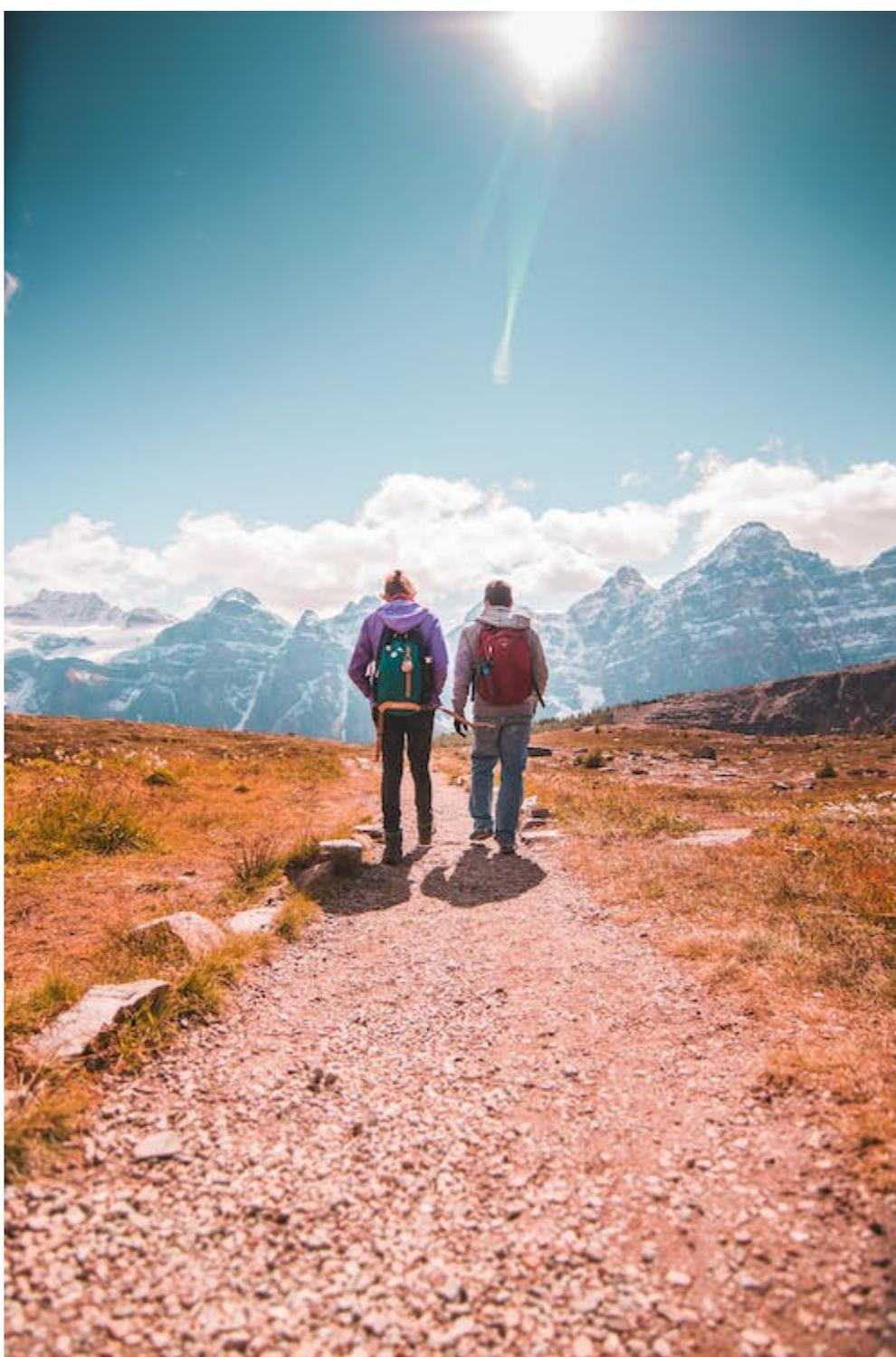


GUEST COLUMNS?

If you have something to say, and are willing to let Arynne edit it slightly, please feel free to submit your original writing to ArynneD@aol.com Content will not be edited. We can usually make room for more voices. **We appreciate our contributors!**

Relating to Friends Who Have a Mental Illness

By Moon



Mental Illness appears to be a relevant topic for the pagan community. Many people come to paganism because they feel they don't belong in other communities. I admire our community for being so welcoming and inclusive. There is the rare exception for the extremely abusive, predatory, or disruptive folks, but exclusions really are far and few between.

For most of my life, I didn't understand why there was such a stigma around people who have mental illnesses until I befriended several people who had them. Those friends were not equal. In this, I mean, they differed in how they were able to cope with day-to-day life and interactions with other people. Much of it came down to how or if they took ownership of their mental health. This included but was not limited to ensuring they saw their doctor and took their medication as well as going to therapy.

friends that have mental health diagnoses are functional for the most part. They are the ones that took control of their conditions, learned about them, and are able to sufficiently communicate their needs and limits to others. It's important to keep in mind that most people with mental health diagnoses are capable and good people.

Having friends with mental health challenges can change the dynamics of the friendship depending on their diagnosis. If strong boundaries are not set in the beginning, it can be hard to separate plain bad behavior from a manifestation of their disability. There are also those who use their diagnosis as a weapon, *i.e.*: I have this condition so you can't be upset about me mistreating you. At least one male friend used this tactic with me. Even with boundaries in place, things can go sideways. This is where I think the stigma comes in. Because not everyone has experience with interacting with folks who have mental illnesses. They most likely made the mistake of thinking the bad behavior was solely a manifestation of the illness and didn't bother to investigate further.

I don't have a degree in psychology, but I work in a healthcare-related field and have worked with people in crisis. My best advice is to start with strong boundaries and be consistent about them. Red flags usually won't differ for our friends with mental health challenges and those without them if they're following their regimen, but sometimes problems can manifest if a crisis is present. Keep this in mind and try to be understanding if your friend is having a bad day and give them leeway within reason. Try to understand their limitations as well so there are no unrealistic expectations on your part.

However, if these friends are unmedicated, or are resistant to following their treatment plan, red flags may come up more often than not. In these instances, some of the red flags that I have seen come up consistently are obvious lying and not caring about the other person finding out about the lie, attacking or threatening to attack the other person in a public venue if the other party doesn't do what they want, being upset about having boundaries being reinforced or new ones implemented after there is an issue. It goes without saying that stealing, physical violence, bodily harm, or inconsistency with things that trigger them are huge red flags, and disengagement from the person would be wise. The biggest red flag for me is someone who has been diagnosed and refuses to take medication and/or go to therapy. I would also advise caution and kindness when interacting with the person. If they receive treatment and continue to be consistent it would be up to the other person if they wanted to continue the friendship. However, if the person becomes abusive, don't hesitate to cut them out of your life.

In the end, not everyone with a mental illness can be a good friend to others, but most can and it's important not to stereotype.

Upcoming Community Events

The Althea Center for Engaged Spirituality



Hearthstone meets the Friday before or the Friday of the Full Moon. When we have in person rituals, we meet in the Historic Library at the Althea Center for Engaged Spirituality, 1400 Williams St., Denver, CO. There are two small parking lots: to the north (next to the building) and to the east of the building (across the alley), each with spaces for 20 cars.

Enter through the Main Door at the corner of Williams St. and 14th Ave. The **door opens at 7:00 pm**, and we **lock the door at 7:30 pm** to secure the building. There are no late admissions.

Hearthstone Community Church Website Link:
<http://hearthstone.fnorky.com/home/>



Earth Temple

Earth Temple is back to open rituals in person at Full Moon Books. For all the most current information about Earth Temple and our New/Dark/Waning moon rituals, visit our Meetup Group: www.meetup.com/EarthTemple or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/EarthTempleColorado>.

ET Calendar for 2022

Oct 28

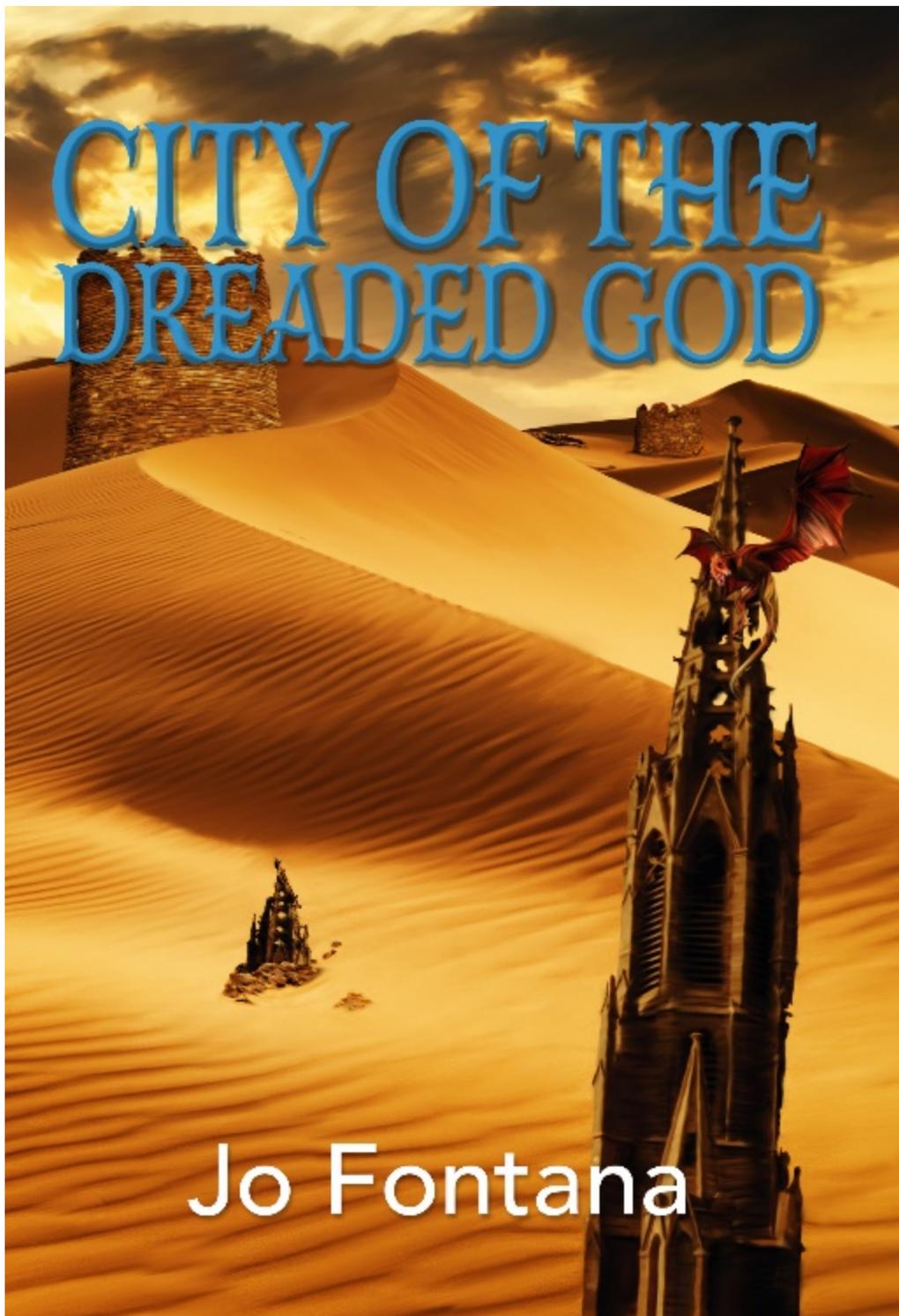
Nov 25

Dec 23

Earth Temple Facebook Page

Community Vendors and Artists

COMING SOON
City of the Dreaded God
From Jo Fontana



It's almost been a full turn of the seasons since Jericho Brightbrook and his companions separated, each hoping to find clues that would lead to the downfall of their dreaded former master. After the companions reunite, they are compelled to travel into the heart of the desert where the elves of legend once ruled and magic flourished.

Meanwhile, the Brotherhood have not forgotten Jericho and are determined to force his return to the temple to take his rightful place. Though Jericho would rather die than accept his fate, problems continue to arise in the form of the mercurial guardian of the library, demands from the green lady, his emerging powers, and growing tensions with Balan. It will take every ounce of focus Jericho has to stay one step ahead of the Brotherhood.

For more information visit www.jofontana.com

General Community Information



Low-Cost Pet Cat Spay/Neuter & Vaccines & Free Spay/Neuter & Vaccines for Feral Cats

[Spay/Neuter | Denver, CO | Dumb Friends League \(ddfl.org\)](#)

The Dumb Friends League offers affordable spay/neuter services to all owned pet cats and feral/community cats. The details, locations, and qualifications are at their web site above. They are able to offer these services thanks to the generosity of donors. They recommend that tame, friendly cats without owners be taken to an animal shelter for adoption.

At this time DDFL is not able to provide spay/neuter services to dogs, for-profit breeders, or rescue groups.

It takes ALL of us to reduce the overpopulation problem and move toward a world where all pets are loved and cared for. Thank you!



Priestess Support, Services, and Potential Presenters

For Pagan or Wiccan clergy or for any other Hearthstone business, email us at hearthstonecommunitychurch@gmail.com

If you would like to lead a future Open Full Moon, please contact Arynne at ArynneD@aol.com

At this point we have ritual leaders scheduled for all of 2022.

Thank you for volunteering your talents!



Donations --- in person or through Zelle!

Thank you for supporting the work and service of
Hearthstone Community Church.

We meet our expenses through the generosity of our participants and supporters. We accept donations at our in-person rituals, or if you prefer, you may contribute through **Zelle** instead. Zelle is a direct funds transfer method offered by most banks. It is super easy to use online and no fees are charged or withheld. Hearthstone is registered in Zelle by our **email address:** hearthstonecommunitychurch@gmail.com We suggest a donation of \$5-15/OFM. If you can't afford it, you are still welcome to participate. If you can afford more, we'll be delighted to accept it.

Hearthstone's primary expense is the rent for the room at the Althea Center. We appreciate any and all support from our community to help meet our obligations.
Thank you!

Hearthstone Community Church Website Link



UPCOMING 2022 OPEN FULL MOON RITUALS

OCTOBER 7
NOVEMBER 4
DECEMBER 2

BLESSINGS from HEARTHSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH!

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